

The Nation's small businesses are the backbone of our country's vibrant and growing economy. In signing S. 314 today, I hope to ensure that our small business community will move into the Year 2000 with minimal disruption to our Nation's economy.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 2, 1999.

NOTE: S. 314, approved April 2, was assigned Public Law No. 106-8. An original was not available for verification of the content of this statement.

Message on the Observance of Easter, 1999

April 2, 1999

Warm greetings to everyone celebrating Easter.

Today Christians across America and around the world commemorate with great joy the central mystery of their faith: the Resurrection of Jesus. In this season, we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death, and we rejoice in the new life that He won for us through His suffering, death, and rising from the dead.

That new life empowers us to overcome sin and to recognize our capacity for forgiveness and love. We have seen in our own communities and in other nations across the globe the violence and human tragedy spawned by hatred, intolerance, and fear born of ignorance. If we are to destroy the roots of hatred, we must examine our own hearts and actions and learn what we can and must do to build just communities united in understanding and mutual respect. May this sacred season of renewal, hope, and new beginnings inspire our efforts and light our way to a brighter, more peaceful future.

Hillary joins me in extending best wishes for a blessed and joyous Easter celebration.

Bill Clinton

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

March 28

In the afternoon, the President went to Camp David, MD.

March 29

In the morning, the President returned to the White House, where he met with Chief of Staff John Podesta in the Oval Office. Later, he met with the foreign policy team and military leaders in the Oval Office concerning the situation in Kosovo.

The President announced the appointment of Robert A. Babbage, Jr., and Larry Echohawk as members of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

March 30

In the afternoon, the President met with President-elect Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria concerning a range of bilateral and regional issues.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom regarding the situation in Kosovo and the Northern Ireland peace process.

The President announced his intention to nominate John Hanson to be Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

April 1

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom and Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland concerning the Northern Ireland peace process. Later, he met with the national security team in the Oval Office.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Norfolk, VA. While en route aboard Air Force One, he met with Defense Secretary William Cohen and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Henry (Hugh) Shelton. Following his arrival at the Norfolk

Naval Station, he met privately at the Pennsylvania House with a group of military families to convey the Nation's appreciation for their sacrifices and hardships.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert Z. Lawrence to be a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers.

April 2

In the morning, the President met with representatives of humanitarian organizations in the Cabinet Room concerning relief efforts in Kosovo.

The President designated Harold C. Pachios as Chair of the Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released March 29

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Released March 30

Statement by the Press Secretary: President Clinton Meets with Nigerian President-elect Obasanjo

Transcript of remarks by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at the Warren Christopher portrait unveiling

Released March 31

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Statement by the Press Secretary: White House Initiates Review on Space Launch Ranges

Released April 1

Statement by the Press Secretary on an inter-agency delegation to southeast Europe

Transcript of a press briefing by U.S. Atlantic Fleet Commander in Chief Adm. J. Paul Reason, USN, and Air Combat Command Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Thomas Keck on the President's visit to the Norfolk Naval Station

Transcript of a press briefing by Secretary of Defense William Cohen and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Hugh Shelton on the NATO mission in Kosovo

Released April 2

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by NSC Senior Director for Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs Eric Schwartz, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration Julia Taft, USAID Deputy Administrator Hattie Babbitt, and Joint Chiefs Director of Logistics Lt. Gen. John McDuffie on relief efforts in the Balkans

Fact sheet: U.S. Humanitarian Relief Efforts for Kosovar Albanians

Acts Approved by the President

Approved March 30

H.R. 808 / Public Law 106-5

To extend for 6 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, is reenacted